16th March 1954]

Assignment of house-sites to Harijans in Tiruvallur taluk, Chingleput district.

* 197 Q.—SRI M. DHARMALINGAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Animal Husbandry be pleased to state—

(a) how many Harijan families have been provided with houses free of cost and how many are provided on payment of the full cost or half the cost of the house-sites in Tiruvallur taluk, Chingleput district, during the year 1953–54; and

(b) how many families are yet to be provided with houses free of cost or house-sites on payment of full or half cost?

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" (a) Nil.

" (b) House-sites are proposed to be provided to 339 Harijan families of which 112 families will be granted house-sites free of cost, 43 on recovery of full cost, 7 on payment of half cost and 98 families on payment of one-third of the cost. The question whether the remaining 79 families should be granted house-sites free of cost or on payment of cost is under consideration."

SRI M. DHARMALINGAM :—" In view of the fact that Harijans are economically backward and that they could not construct their houses even after the assignment of lands for house-sites, will the Government consider the desirability of granting at least Rs. 500 as subsidy and Rs. 500 as loan recoverable on instalment basis?" 11-10 a.m.

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :—" This is a matter of policy involving financial commitment. The present policy, as I have stated, is that deserving Harijans will be granted house-sites free. But the Government are not committing themselves to any free grants for construction of houses."

Reconstruction of the bridge on the Chowa-Anjarakandi road in Chirakkal taluk, North Malabar.

* 198 Q.—SRI K. MADHAVAN NAMBIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state whether the Thattari Bridge No. 19 on the Chowa-Anjarakandi road in Chirakkal taluk in North Malabar has been completely broken down and if so, for how long it has been in that broken condition and the steps taken by the Government either to repair it or to put up a fresh bridge at the place?

THE HON. SRI K. RAJARAM :—" The bridge collapsed in the rains of 1945. Its reconstruction has been sanctioned under Post-War Road Development programme. The construction of the bridge up to deck level has been completed. The work is expected to be completed shortly."